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WORK

A Journal of Progress



PUBLISHED MONTHLY

—≡ By The ≡—

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

Washington, D. C.

GEORGE. E. ALLEN
Administrator

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WORK
PROGRAM
WPA

Vol. 1, No. 1

SEPTEMBER

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WORK

A Journal of Progress

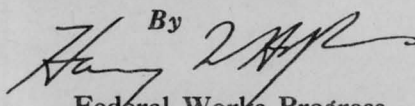
Published by the
District of Columbia Works Progress Administration
GEORGE E. ALLEN, ADMINISTRATOR

Vol. 1

Washington, D. C., September, 1936

No. 1

Aims and Policies of WPA

By 
Federal Works Progress
Administrator

THE people of the United States have every reason to be proud of the fine accomplishments of the District of Columbia Works Progress Administration in their Nation's Capital. Under the able direction of its administrative officials the works program in Washington is being carried out in accordance with the far-reaching plans of President Roosevelt to meet the unemployment problem.

Improvement and beautification of Washington's unequalled system of parks and public buildings and construction of miles of highways under WPA auspices will bring increased pleasure to the thousands of persons who visit the capital each year. Residents of the District have received lasting benefits from the many worthwhile civic, artistic and welfare projects completed by WPA.

I wish every American could see the work program in action. That, of course, is impossible, but a clear picture of what is being accomplished in the District of Columbia can be obtained through the medium of this magazine.

But let us see what the Works Program is doing for all of us through projects being carried out all over the country.



HARRY L. HOPKINS

The biggest classification of all is the construction or improvement of streets and highways and farm-to-market roads. Another big group includes public buildings—new or improved schools, libraries and hospitals. Also of great significance is the building of parks, playgrounds and recreational centers. Ten per cent of our projects provide for water and sewer systems.

The airport program is being carried on under a definite national plan. Construction is under way at more than 438 locations.

It is well to keep in mind that through the Works Progress Administration alone more than a hundred million dollars is poured into the channels of trade every month. That means something to all of us.

There are only two basic ways in which unemployment relief can be given—dole or jobs. Give a man a dole and you save his body and destroy his spirit. Give him a job and pay him an assured wage, and you save both the body and the spirit. That is the theory upon which the WPA is based. It is a recognition that the unemployed are not a class apart, to be pitied and aided with the least possible cost, but are human beings, average run-of-mine citizens just like the rest of us, and with the same hopes, aspirations and needs.

Work relief costs more than direct relief, but the cost is justified; first, in the preservation of morale; second, in the utilization of human skills and talents, and, third, in the material enrichments which WPA workers add to our national wealth through their labors.

Only a work program can answer the important aspects of the unemployment problem. Only a job can answer the problem of the jobless man; only a wage will increase purchasing power, for a basket of groceries starts no dollars circulating.

First Lady Sees WPA at Work

Sewing Room Spirit Wins Praise

DESPITE the multiplicity of her duties and interests, the First Lady of the Land probably is better informed than most Washington residents concerning the aid the Works Progress Administration is giving the needy women of the District of Columbia.

With her characteristic desire for first-hand information, Mrs. Roosevelt recently donned a comfortable pair of walking shoes and without fanfare or flourish set out to see for herself how the WPA operates the sewing and knitting rooms where more than 2,000 women are receiving employment.

Her tour was by no means a fleeting one, for at each room visited she tarried to examine all phases of the work and to discuss problems with the workers.

Mrs. Roosevelt followed the progress of garments from patterns to finished products, expressing amazement at the speed with which the work was turned out. Knitting needles wagged in high gear at the knitting center when the President's wife expressed the hope that the women liked knitting "as much as I do."

The chatelaine of the White House appeared particularly impressed with the cheerful cooperation and appreciation exhibited by the women who are turning out hundreds of assorted garments each week. On the day following her inspection tour she had this to say in her syndicated column:

"What interests me most are the people carrying on these projects. I had opportunity to meet them clear across the continent and their enthusiasm and belief



MRS. FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

in their work is really fine to see. It is not the kind of spirit you see in people who are working because they received a certain amount of money at the end of each week. There is a fire in them, I think, through the feeling that they are really working to

better conditions for their fellow beings."

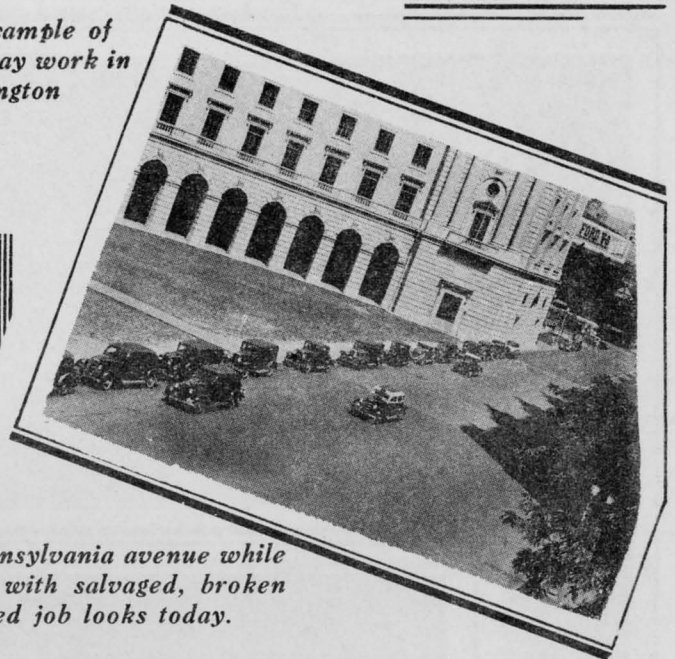
Mrs. Roosevelt complimented the District WPA organization on the administration of the sewing rooms and the economy exhibited in the utilization of limited quarters.

Many Miles of New Highways

*Striking example of
WPA highway work in
Washington*



*Twelfth street below Pennsylvania avenue while
it was being resurfaced with salvaged, broken
concrete, and as completed job looks today.*



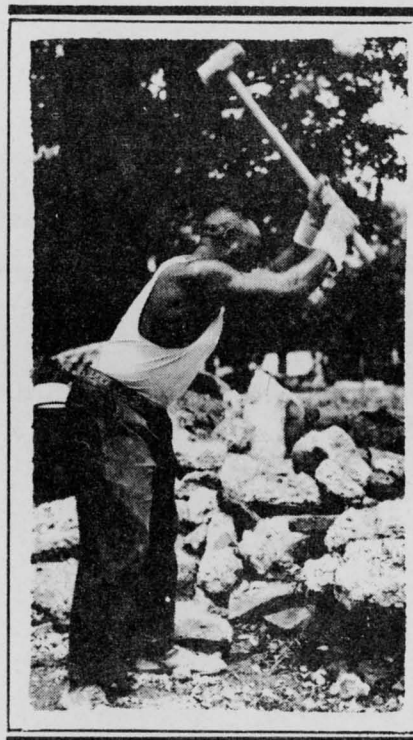
PERMANENT improvement of the highway system of the District of Columbia has been one of the major achievements of the Works Progress Administration and its relief predecessors. Benefits to citizens in general and motorists in particular abound in all parts of the city. Because of this work many miles of modern pavement that otherwise would have been long-delayed are today available to the public. All this in addition to the employment assistance so sorely needed by the hundreds of men provided with jobs they had elsewhere sought in vain.

These projects have all been carried on in close collaboration with the Highway Department, which like other branches of the District Government has been laboring with inadequate Congressional appropriations. Recently a year of these WPA operations was completed and it is now possible to evaluate results.

It was on August 1, 1935, that WPA took over the assistance to the Highway and Engineering

Departments which had been carried on by the Emergency Works Administration and the Civil Works Administration. Five

How Twelfth street paving material was produced by WPA labor



projects were immediately approved. In their prosecution from 800 to 2,300 men have been employed.

The projects called for the clearing of underbrush and trees in highway virgin territory, roadside beautification, major and minor streets repairs, and the building of new roadways.

Outstanding examples of these improvements are to be seen at the Harvard street entrance to the National Zoological Park and the new connecting highway between Potomac and Rock Creek Parks. More than 15 miles of streets have been made more attractive to the eye as the result of the roadside beautification project.

In addition more than nine miles of new highways have been built by WPA labor. Home building operations have already started in many areas thus opened up.

In addition to the original five projects, during the last two months, WPA workers have covered 40 "raw material streets" with 14,000 tons of bituminous

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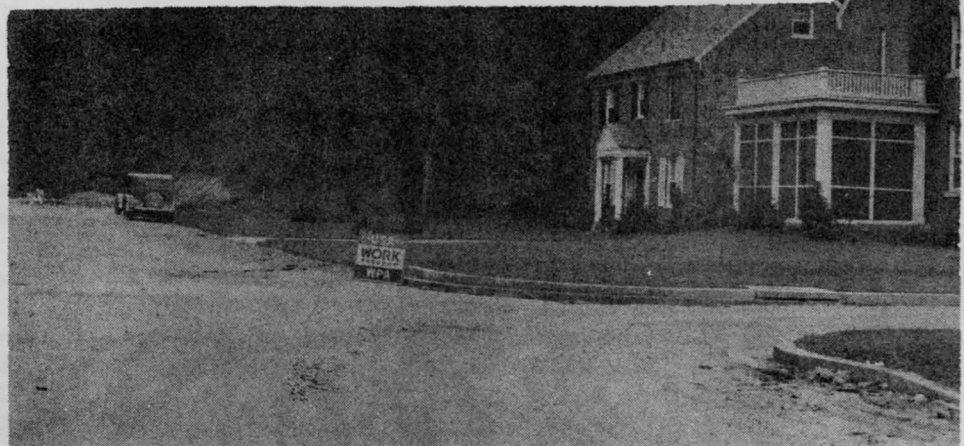
Creating New Capital Streets



How WPA highway operations are opening up new residential areas in Washington. At left, the work crews are seen doing real pioneering, clearing virgin forest for 44th street between Dexter and W, Northwest



In the center is an intermediate stage of the job and at right is seen the finished street with homes already erected upon it

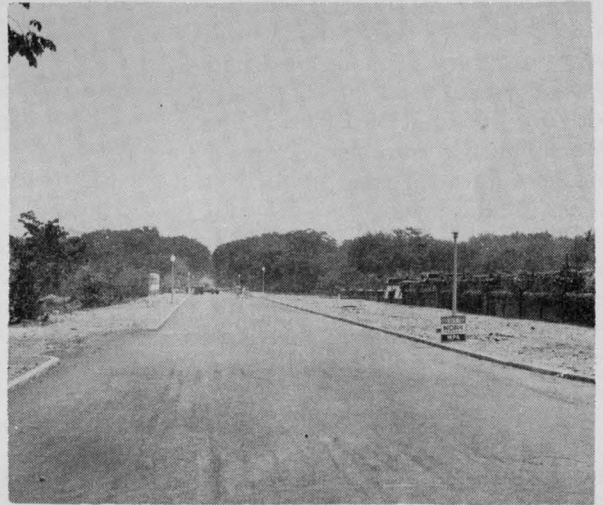


Varied Highway Operations

Below is shown part of operation by which Massachusetts avenue, already the longest thoroughfare in the District, was made even longer by WPA



At left, WPA workers have surfaced Washington streets with 14,000 tons of bituminous concrete. Photo taken at 13th and G streets, Northeast



When the record-breaking blizzard buried Washington under 15 inches of snow last February, WPA workers helped clear the streets



Above, an example of modern paving added to District of Columbia highway system by WPA. This tarred gravel surfacing is on P street, Southwest

Extending Highway System

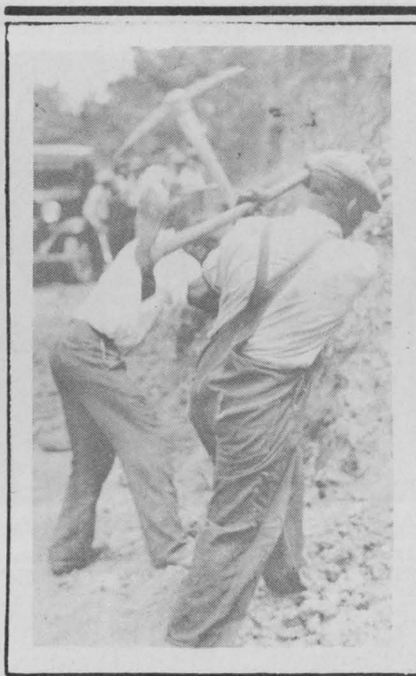
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concrete. Sometimes as much as 1,200 tons has been laid in one day.

New projects with the dual goal of relief and permanent benefit to the Capital are being devised by WPA engineers as fast as possible. One which is almost ready for submission for approval involves more curb and gutter work and repair of bituminous roads. Others in the making call for additional production of raw material, more trees and parking improvement and general beautification and minor grading.

When the WPA program got under way in the District 1,500 men were given employment over a two-months' period. Then, because of delay in starting, the sewer program workers assigned to that were used on highway, bringing the total to 2,300. Last December the number returned to 1,500 and at present about 800 men are employed. During the great blizzard of late winter hundreds of the WPA highway workers were used in clearing the streets of snow. This greatly hastened the return of normal traffic conditions.

All of this work was a continuation of previous relief employment which had produced, under CWA and EWA nine and one-half miles of new macadam roadways, the repair of two miles of brick sidewalks, one bridge and a culvert. Nineteen hundred trees and 2,800 shrubs were planted under EWA, 80 acres of ground landscaped, sixteen and one-half miles of highway beautified, two soil erosion projects undertaken and 142,340 cubic yards of earth moved in grading activity. A number of low cost highways were built and grading done by hand methods. A number of new brick sidewalks were built and hundreds of feet of culvert pipe installed.



A hillside melts away under the picks of brawny WPA workers

Among the more interesting achievements of the WPA highway project is the further extension of Massachusetts avenue, already the longest thoroughfare in the District. WPA labor has ex-

tended this historic avenue approximately one mile from Anacostia Road at Randle Circle to Alabama avenue. Now traversing all sections except Southwest, Massachusetts avenue comes within a few hundred yards of crossing the entire District of Columbia and the WPA extension has opened up a healthful, elevated and otherwise desirable residential area.

West of Glover Park, on the heights overlooking the Potomac, WPA workers completed a task which involved real pioneering, even though it was carried on within a few miles of the Capitol of the Nation. A labor battalion there cut through a literal wilderness on the very outskirts of the Capital. Several weeks afterwards a broad city thoroughfare existed where labyrinthian forest conditions had prevailed. In the advance of progress represented by WPA, as many as possible of the giant red and white oaks and poplars, some of which had been saplings when Indians ranged the bluffs along the Potomac, were saved.



Breaking old concrete on WPA highway operation at Warren and 42d streets, Northwest. This salvaged material was used to build the road

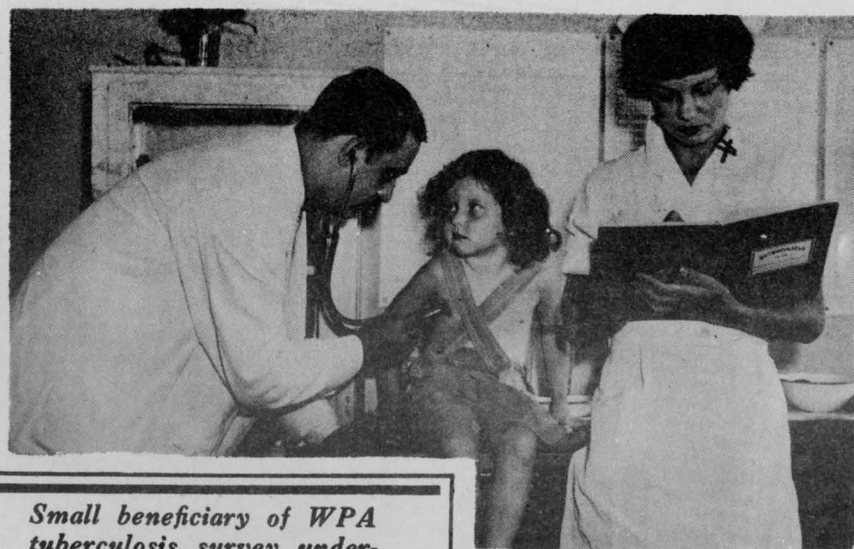
Helping Fight White Plague

WPA Extends Aid to Many Institutions

WHILE the fight against tuberculosis cannot be measured in terms of money or work, the Works Progress Administration has liberally contributed its resources and manpower to aid the District of Columbia erase the stigma of having only last year, next to the highest tuberculosis death rate in the United States.

Early in the Roosevelt Administration, when the paramount thought in the mind of the Nation was to get the unemployed and needy to work as fast as possible, the District of Columbia relief officials worked out a plan of cooperation with the District Health Department, tuberculosis institutions and the D. C. Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis.

Following a series of conferences the WPA pledged its aid to



Small beneficiary of WPA tuberculosis survey undergoing examination at one of numerous clinics

four major projects in the District. These called for the reconstruction of the entire group of original buildings at Gallinger Hospital, a program at the Tuberculosis Hospital, a comprehensive compilation of tuberculosis data for the District and a staff of workers and funds for the Re-

habilitation Service of the D. C. Tuberculosis Association.

By far the most pretentious and utilitarian project was that chosen for Gallinger Hospital. This project was a partial answer to the cry for additional hospital facilities sorely needed by District of Columbia victims of The White Plague. The modernization work started under EWA and later taken over by WPA is nearing completion.

Dr. Edgar A. Bocock, superintendent of Gallinger Hospital, was high in his praise of the work accomplished at the institution by WPA. He expressed the belief that the added facilities would enable Gallinger to serve as a receiving and distributing center for tuberculosis cases. Dr. Bocock added:

"Those cases in which recovery is regarded as very doubtful could remain at Gallinger. There would be no use of sending them to the new sanitarium at Glenn Dale. We can give them equally as good care and treatment here. Furthermore, it would be to the best interest of the patient, if his case

(Continued on Page 29)

New tuberculosis ward created by WPA out of Civil War-old structure at Gallinger Hospital



WPA Nursery Schools

Under the direction of women who understand and perform the highly specialized phases of training young children, the District of Columbia WPA is operating ten nursery schools with an enrollment of 250 children.

The pictures show a part of the many activities of the Nursery School project which was inaugurated to care for the children from needy families. The ages range from 2½ to 5 years.

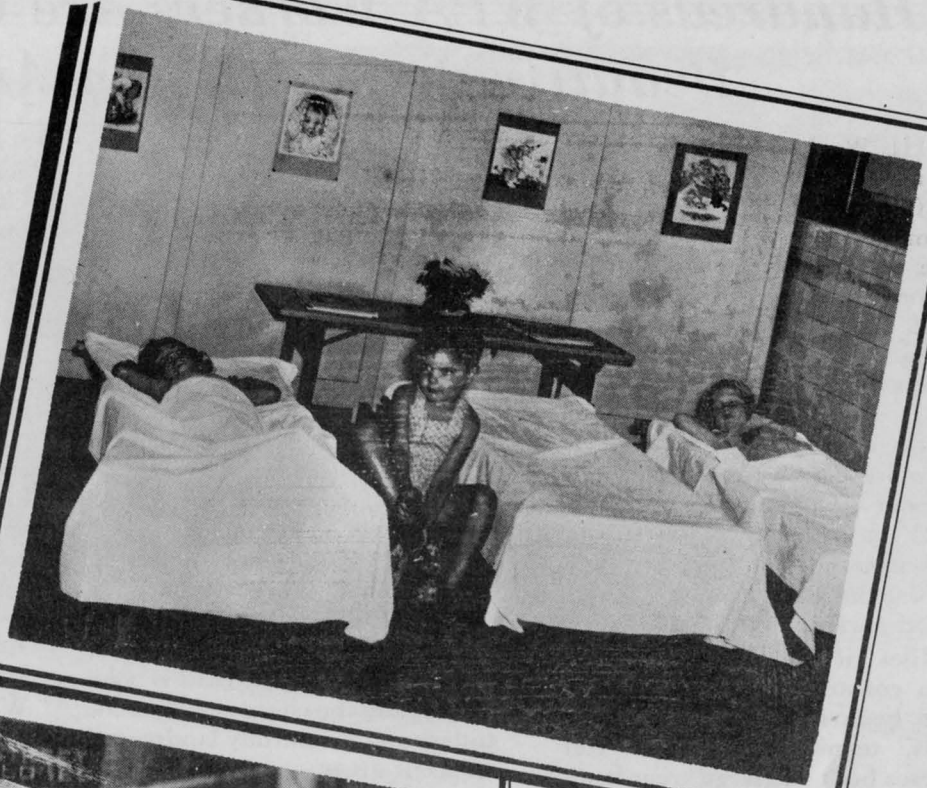
A group of unemployed professional women make



Build for the Future

up the staff. Many of the teachers are trained in nursery school or kindergarten work while others have received special institute training. A teacher, nurse, dietitian and domestic worker is assigned to each unit.

The day begins with the teacher and mother discussing the child's health or behavior problems or some other phase of development. Most of the day is spent in vigorous outdoor play with the teachers guiding but not dominating.



Improving Parks of Capital

Hundreds of WPA Workers Are Given Jobs Beautifying Recreation Areas

THE Works Progress Administration has contributed its full share to help realize the dream of George Washington to make the District of Columbia the most beautiful capital in the world.

One need go no farther than the National Capital Parks system to view the permanent and artistic achievements of WPA. For more than a year an average of about 500 men have been engaged in beautifying, repairing and installing permanent improvements in the Capital's widespread parking areas.

Miles of new roadways have been constructed, triangle parks have been improved, swimming pools, tennis courts and golf courses built and large areas landscaped. The projects completed by WPA will be enjoyed for years to come, not only by Washingtonians, but also by the thousands of visitors to the Nation's Capital each year.

One of the most pretentious of the road projects is virtual completion of the Piney Branch Valley Parkway running from Beech Drive to Arkansas Avenue, Northwest, a distance of two miles. This road gives another outlet to Rock Creek Park, thereby greatly relieving the park traffic situation. The roadway is 30 feet wide and is covered with a bituminous top. A stone retaining wall was constructed along two-thirds of the road. This entire area was landscaped by WPA workers.

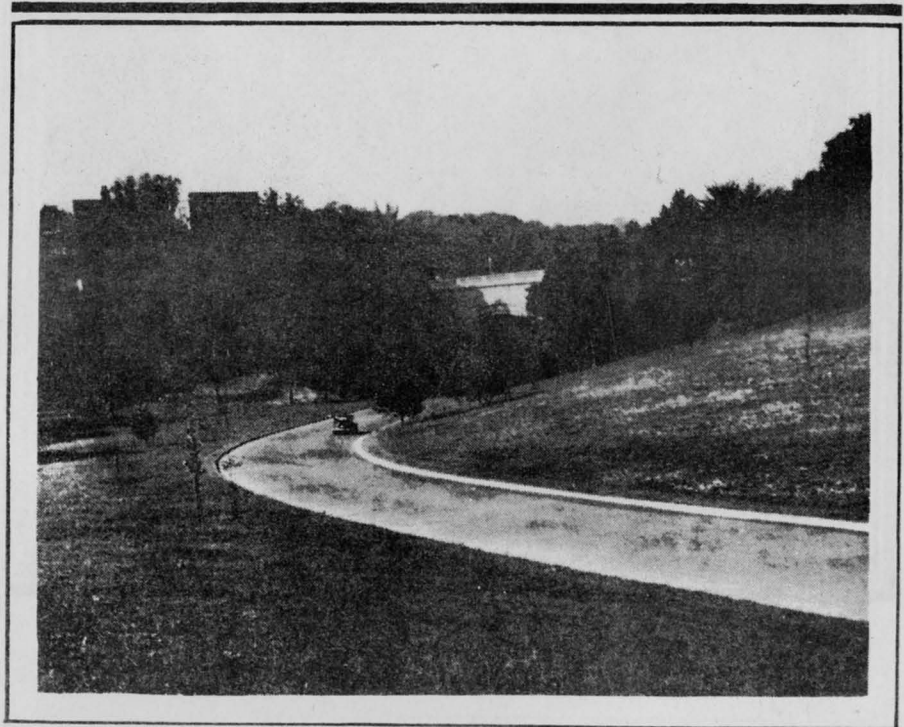
Improvements of 60 minor reservations, principally triangle areas in the city, are about 75 per cent complete under WPA auspices. These improvements included the laying of topsoil, con-

struction of coping and sidewalks, planting of shrubs and trees and general beautification. Workers also cleaned up areas at Forts De Russey, Slocum, Stanton and Kimbel, removing underbrush, dead trees and poisonous plants.

Important roadway work included Fort Drive at the Alice Deal School, 39th and Davenport Streets, N. W. Here it was necessary for workers to make a four or five-foot earth cut and fill certain areas to a depth of ten and twelve feet. Bingham Drive in Rock Creek Park, connecting Daniels Road and Beach Drive, and extending 500 yards, also was built by WPA. This road is completed and boasts natural stone gutters and beautifully landscaped adjacent areas.

Extensive road repairs were achieved in Potomac and Rock Creek Parks. WPA officials estimate that more than 18 miles of park road have been improved. New gutters also were installed in parts of Rock Creek Park and East Potomac Park.

Colored citizens of Washington are now enjoying the benefits of work done by WPA. This especially applies to the golf course in Anacostia Park at 24th Street and Benning Road, N. E. This park is a recreational area adjacent to the new Federal housing project and colored school in Anacostia. This was one of the toughest jobs tackled by the WPA as the area formerly served as a dump for the District of Columbia.



Example of WPA work that has greatly enhanced beauty and utility of National Capital parks. This shows completed Piney Branch Road in Rock Creek Park. Acres of ground were graded and terraced.

WPA Park Work Results



Top picture shows what construction of the Langdon Wading Pool by WPA has meant to the children of that area of Washington



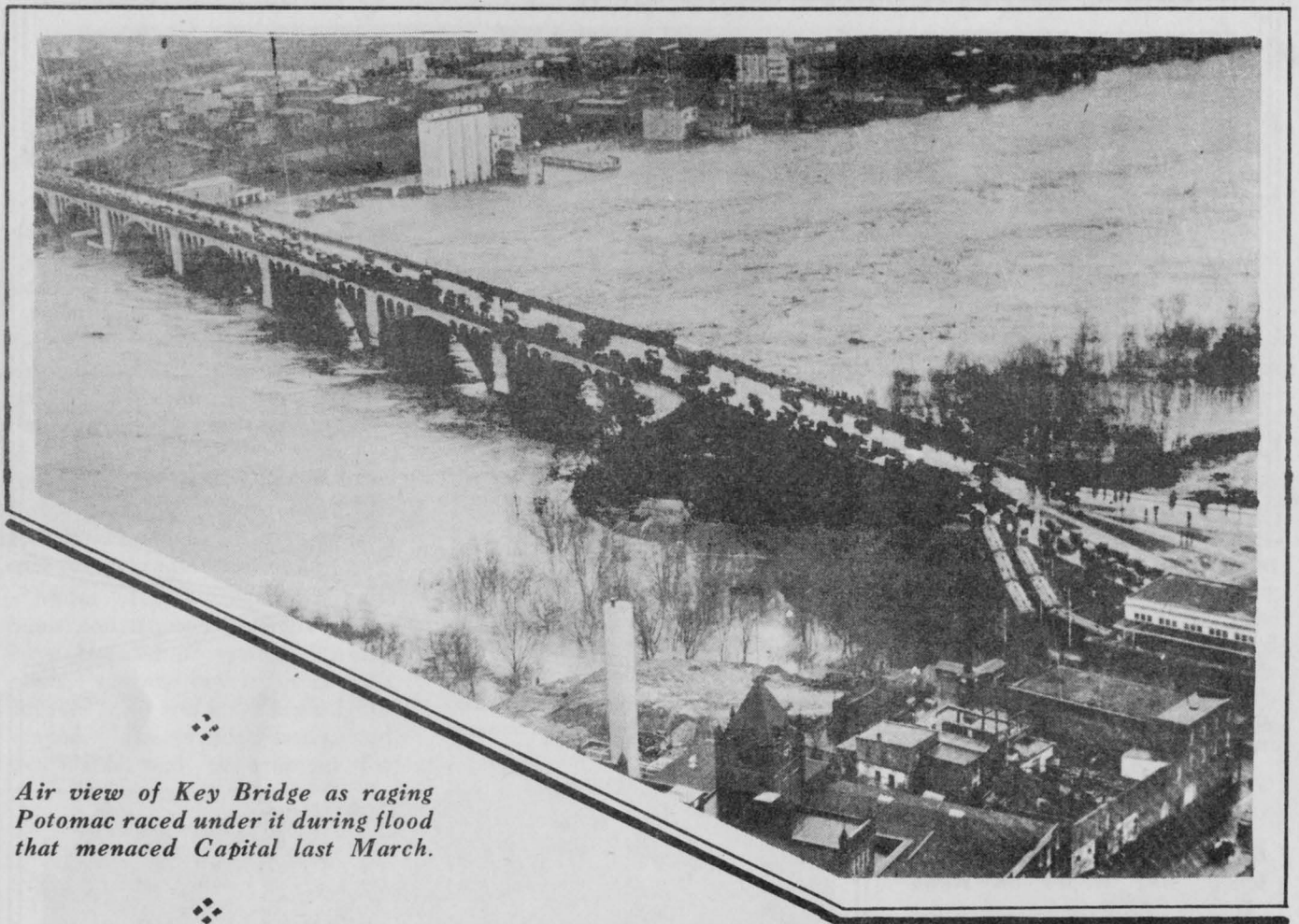
Lower left, WPA workers landscaping slopes on Reno Road near School



Above, terraced hillside of Harvard street entrance to National Zoological Park, another WPA operation



WPA Crews Thwart Flood



Air view of Key Bridge as raging Potomac raced under it during flood that menaced Capital last March.

DARK torrents rushing down the valley of the Potomac last March, leaving death and destruction in their wake, found man had erected barriers in the Nation's Capital to fend off their devastating forces.

In the forefront of the agencies mobilized to build dikes and to take other precautionary measures were 2,500 Works Progress Administration laborers.

The bulwarks of defense erected at that time proved so effective they are now being utilized as the basis of a permanent system of flood control for the National Capital.

The first great flood emergency faced by the city since the dis-

aster of 1889 was handled with a minimum of damage. Availability of quickly mobilized groups of WPA workmen, with tools and transportation at hand, proved the necessary force to turn the tide toward victory in the battle against the raging torrent.

On the morning of March 18 it became apparent to experts of the U. S. Weather Bureau and other technicians that a flood condition would soon exist in the Potomac River. Since this seriously endangered Government buildings in the area west of the Washington Monument and also constituted a menace to the entire downtown section of Washington, a plan, formulated in 1930 and

envisaging such an emergency, was ordered into effect.

Defensive operations centered from a point northeast of the Lincoln Memorial in a straight line across all intervening territory and highways to the western base of the Washington Monument.

Hastily recruited battalions of WPA workers, augmented by CCC men and regular employees of the National Capital Parks, began throwing up a 12-foot dike to meet the wall of water surging toward the Capital. This barrier was 30 feet thick at the base.

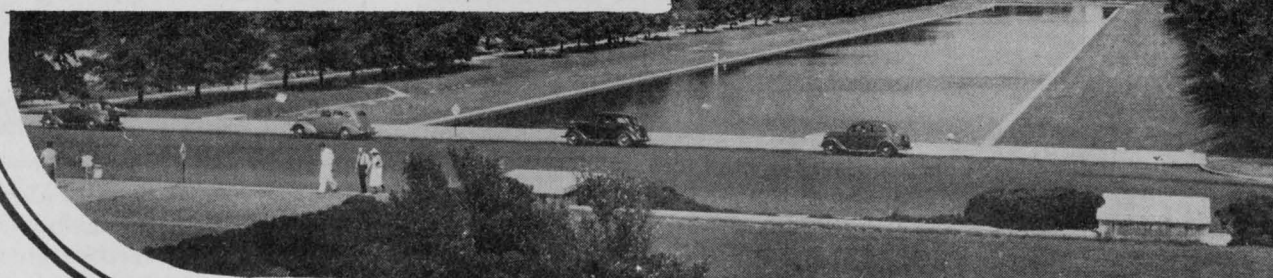
Hampered by a steady rain, the WPA workers toiled throughout the entire day and night without

(Continued on Page 27)

Repairing River's Damage



Progressive steps of one WPA rehabilitation job after the March flood; above and to left, is seen the Titanic Memorial surrounded by the swollen Potomac. Then the havoc left by receding waters. To left the restored monument setting. Below, beyond the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool was erected the dike which saved downtown Washington. There a permanent flood control project is now in progress.



Inspiring Work by the Blind



WPA workers making rugs and tapestries on hand looms at Phyllis Wheatley School for the Blind



Tennis re-stringer at work supplied by WPA at Columbia Polyclinic Institute for the Blind

A SMALL room in the basement of premises at 1808 H Street, Northwest, is the scene of one of the most interesting and inspiring phases of WPA work in the District of Columbia. Upon entering this improvised work shop the visitor is impressed

with the concentration of the dozen or so artisans working on as many jobs. A second glance is enough to ascertain the fact that these workers are blind—many of them totally, others to varying extents.

They constitute just a unit of the several hundred sightless persons who are receiving aid of various kind from the Works Progress Administration—persons who, despite their handicaps, are earning a livelihood and learning trades that will enable them to continue to support themselves in competitive industry.

The shop on H Street is operated by the Columbia Polytechnic Institute for the Blind, a private concern, but most of the blind employed on the premises are assigned by the District of Columbia Works Progress Administration.

Activities include chair caning
(Continued on Page 15)



Chair-caning is particularly adaptable to vocational needs of the sightless aided by this WPA project

Productive Toil Builds Morale

Sightless Are Trained for Industry

(Continued from Page 14)

and repair, piano tuning and repair, instruction in use of the dictaphone, typing and Braille. The work is done on a commission basis, and for the last six months has been of sufficient volume to insure all artisans on the rolls a living income. The WPA provides all necessary materials and deducts the cost from the fee paid the worker.

Most of the chairs repaired at the shop are period pieces requiring skilled attention. Some of them are sent direct to the shop from private homes, and others are sent in from chair repairers unable to do the job themselves. Three of the WPA workers assigned to the shop are capable of executing any phase of cane work, and despite the fact that they are totally blind they weave the most intricate patterns as perfectly and as quickly as workmen in full possession of their sight.

In addition to cane work, artisans at the shop perform all types of repair work such as the tightening of joints, replacement of broken pieces, restoring finishes and enameling. Such is the quality of their work, commissions are coming in ever-increasing numbers, in spite of the fact that the shop does no advertising or solicitation of business.

Another type of cane work that is done at the shop lies in the construction of a basket-like container for meteorological instruments dropped from airplanes on small parachutes. The instruments record weather data at various altitudes and in various sections of the country. The resiliency of the basket container



Blind WPA typist and Braille proofreader photographed at their tasks in the Library of Congress

cushions the fall and protects the delicate apparatus, which bears a tag announcing that the U. S. Weather Bureau will pay a certain sum to the person who finds the instruments and mails them in.

Considerable revenue for blind relief workers is derived from piano tuning, work that they are eminently fitted for, as it is a well-established fact that the sense of hearing becomes more acute and

sensitive as the result of the loss of sight.

Most of the shop's staff could be on direct relief if they so desired, but all that this writer interviewed expressed a preference for the satisfaction and self-respect that emanates from the knowledge that they are self-supporting citizens, doing work that equals in quality the best performed in the industry.

Tons of Food Given Needy

IN KEEPING with the command of President Roosevelt that "no one shall starve," the Surplus Commodities unit of the Works Progress Administration has distributed more than 121,000,000 pounds of food to the needy in the National Capital.

Foodstuffs distributed included 56,528,924 pounds of roast beef, 62,194,529 pounds of flour, 1,657,330 pounds of wheat, 877,080 pounds of apples, 34,951 pounds of fresh grapefruit, 43,956 pounds of prunes, and 104,826 pounds of

onions. In addition, 18,324 pounds of vegetables, 43,728 pounds of dry skim milk, 79,397 pounds of rolled oats, 40,032 pounds of enriched cereal, 50,000 pounds of dried navy beans, and 94,120 pounds of dried peas were given to those in need.

The 121,000,000 pounds of food distributed by the Surplus Commodities unit between January 1 and July 31, 1936, has been allocated in the form of supplemental relief to employables as well as unemployables on District of Columbia relief rolls.

Survey Proves WPA Worth

TOUR OF 24 STATES DISCLOSES PRACTICAL RESULTS

By
Geo. E. Allen

District of Columbia.
Works Progress Administrator.

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HAVING just completed a tour of 24 States by automobile and trailer, I have had an excellent opportunity to study the Works Progress Administration. The objective of this trip was to ascertain how WPA organizations in the States are meeting their problems, and to seek new ideas to improve the WPA in the District of Columbia.

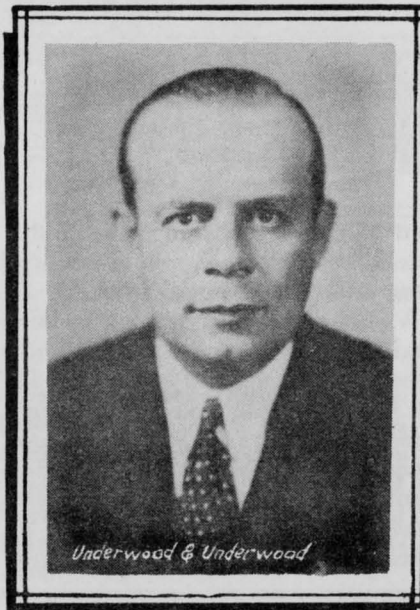
This survey was not limited to interviews with the Administrators and department heads, but also included conversations with foremen and laborers on projects. It extended to small towns as well as metropolitan administrations.

When I left Washington, I did so with real pride in the organization and accomplishments of the District WPA assuming that our local administration was somewhat of a model for the entire country. It was gratifying to find that other administrations are doing similar work. In fact, in some jurisdictions, the WPA activities excelled those in the District.

The most remarkable aspect of this vast work program is that it has accomplished such tremendous results in such a short period. I was especially impressed with the sincerity with which these administrators and their assistants carry out the work program. While stressing efficiency and material accomplishments, these WPA officials stated that the rehabilitation of human beings is the most important consideration. They are constantly reminding their staff that they are dealing with human lives, not merely projects, statistics and budgets. Yet, WPA can stand

proudly on its material accomplishments alone.

Observations during my tour covering more than 7,000 miles, have given me a very clear picture of WPA. It is a picture of tremendous achievement, more than 100,000 miles of roads, streets and sewers, thousands of schools, bridges and water projects, hundreds of airports, etc. Unquestionably the overwhelming majority of the work projects are not only useful, but necessary and of lasting value.



GEORGE E. ALLEN

❖
Having heard so much about "relief reeking with politics," I wondered if this serious charge could have any foundation in fact, or if it was merely part of the political campaign to discredit the accomplishments of WPA. Not only is there a remarkable lack of politics in the work program, but the administrators have really "leaned backward" in their endeavor to maintain this policy. In fact, the practice of tabooing politics has gone so far that few individuals in the WPA can be

found who are willing to discuss politics.

Everywhere I found the local WPA organizations cooperating with all social agencies in a great campaign to improve social conditions. The State administrations are continuing the policy of spreading the WPA dollar in order to give the entire community the maximum benefit. The loafers and inefficient have been steadily weeded out so that today the WPA worker can stand favorable comparison with the average employee in society.

Whenever forest fires, floods or droughts take place, the WPA is one of the first to meet the crisis with both funds and man-power. Not only does WPA fight to prevent or check the ravages of nature, but it also spends millions of dollars to repair the damage done and to mitigate the resulting human suffering.

Instead of excessive centralized control from Washington, the State WPA organizations have been permitted to develop their own program in a manner best suited to local needs. Apart from certain requirements of uniformity for economy and efficiency, each State administration has developed according to the desires of each respective locality.

Recently there has been a noticeable decrease in the attacks upon WPA. What is the reason for this? In spite of the political campaign and the resulting propaganda against emergency agencies, the people have not only grown used to WPA, but exceedingly fond of it. They have gradually come to realize that this vast work program is not "boondoggling" or "wasting the people's money," but a great humanitarian enterprise which has resulted in real and lasting benefits to everyone.

(Continued on Page 30)

Heartening Distressed Youth

NYA EXTENDS VITAL HELP TO RISING GENERATION

By

Aubrey Williams
Executive Director, National Youth Administration

A LITTLE more than a year ago President Roosevelt expressed the determination "to do something for the Nation's unemployed youth, whose skills and energies we can ill afford to lose."

To attack the gigantic economic and hence social and psychological problems which had reduced many millions of young people to a status approaching despair, the President established the National Youth Administration and allotted out of WPA funds \$50,000,000 with which to launch the offensive.

At the time of the President's decision approximately 5,000,000 employable young people between the ages of 16 and 25 were without work. Thousands of them, leaving school during the depression years, had never had jobs. Other thousands, who were employed before the depression, had been quickly laid off. And when, stimulated by the recovery measures of the Administration, business began to pick up, the personnel offices naturally returned to their jobs first those who had been longer in their service and who had families for which to provide.

Still other thousands of young people were compelled to leave school for one reason or another. In many communities schools were closed because of the lack of funds to operate them. In others the distress among families was so great that boys and girls of school age did not have sufficient clothes to enable them to attend. Hundreds who might have been in school were walking the streets trying to find any kind of

odd jobs to help sustain their families.

These conditions were bad enough in themselves. But the President foresaw an even greater tragedy if something was not done promptly to restore the confidence and self-respect of a group which was already being referred to as the "Lost Generation."

With the money at its disposal, the National Youth Administration launched its campaign along three fronts. It provided jobs and training for youth out of school

added income these boys and girls have obtained for their needy families, unusual benefits were made possible for their communities. Parks and playgrounds were established or improved; libraries were enabled to extend their services; leaders were trained for youth recreational activity, thus setting up a powerful barrier against juvenile delinquency; beautification of school grounds was accomplished in hundreds of instances; clothes were made for relief families, and various other worthwhile and much-needed work was done.

Student aid wages have been paid to 283,600 high school students, 125,500 college undergraduates and 6,900 graduates. These students represented 20,000 high schools and 1,617 colleges and universities in every State and the District of Columbia. Of the numbers graduating from college in June, 19,803 were NYA students.

The job placement service of NYA, as of August 1, had succeeded in finding employment in private industry for 6,455 young men and women, and had advised and counseled many thousands more.

In carrying out this program the National Youth Administration has been constantly aware that without the willing and enthusiastic cooperation of hundreds of public and private organizations interested in the welfare of youth, it would not have been able to report the success which it believes it has achieved. Through the assistance of these organizations, a feeling of renewed hope has been given to the youth of America, a feeling that in emergence from the depression their interests are not being ignored, a feeling that the leaders of the Nation recognize their place in its progress.

(Continued on Page 30)



AUBREY WILLIAMS

and unemployed; it made payments for work performed by students in high schools and colleges who would otherwise not be able to attend; and it set up a vocational guidance and placement service for those seeking work.

We have come now to the point where we can review the results of the first phase of the program. On NYA work projects 210,000 young people have been given employment on 7,000 projects. Aside from the important item of the

Bulwarking National Defense



Bolling Field, the Army's vast aviation base in Washington, as it appears while WPA employs hundreds of men to make it suitable for the use of military aircraft

NEW Bolling Field, the Army Air Corps base so intimately associated with the defenses of the Nation's Capital and so vital to the peace-time functions of the Government, would be but a dream of the War Department were it not for the Works Progress Administration.

Until leaders of the Roosevelt Administration ordered 1,000 WPA workers and the first of \$1,200,000 in emergency relief funds made available for the development of Bolling Field, growth of this sorely-needed air base bore marked similarity to that of Little Topsy.

Dirt is still flying. The seemingly everlasting job of leveling, filling in and grading of this vast project covering 345 acres continues unabated. About \$700,000 has been made available for this work from WPA funds. The long, broad runways are now becoming more and more clearly defined.

This immense project, with the hundreds of men, tractors and trucks steadily at work, presents a striking view from the air. Bolling Field is rapidly being molded

into one of the finest and most useful air bases in the world.

The need for an adequate Army air base within the limits of the National Capital was first felt in the early days of the World War.

Prior to October 2, 1917, when the Chief of Army Engineers turned over to the Aviation Section of the Signal Corps that plot of land known as the Anacostia Flats, planes swooping into Washington were forced to land on the Polo Field in Potomac Park.

The war pilots, some of whom are now stationed at General Headquarters in Washington, will attest to the hazards they faced in negotiating safe landings in their clumsy D-H 4's on the Polo Field. As one flier ventured:

"We had to land with a squeeze and a prayer. When we were successful in skimming over the tree tops there was always danger of the crowds breaking the lines and surging into the arc of the propellers."

The Anacostia Flats, at the southeast junction of the Eastern Branch and the Potomac River, were little more than marsh lands. By use of hydraulic fills, the site

was improved sufficiently to permit safe landings and take-offs and was increased in size to approximately 320 acres. The site was used by air units as an operating and training station during the World War.

In 1918 the air base was given the name of Bolling Field, in honor of Col. Raynal C. Bolling, of the U. S. Signal Corps, who was killed in action on the road between Estree and Foukan Court, France, during the German offensive of March 28, 1918.

With the growth of the Army Air Corps in the years immediately following the World War activities other than those of an operating air base took place at Bolling Field. It was developed as the base for meteorological and photographic functions of the Government. It was also used for medical and minor engineering activities. Air Corps officers stationed in Washington also used the field to maintain their efficiency as pilots.

The level of the original field, and that now used by all planes coming into the field, is only a

(Continued on Page 19)

Bolling Field's Value Grows

Army Aviation Base Rebuilt By WPA

(Continued from Page 18)

few feet above mean tide. Due to the nature of its original surface there has been continued sinking of the level, causing a serious drainage problem.

During the floods of March, 1936, the old field was completely inundated by the flood waters backing up into the Anacostia River from the Potomac. WPA workers employed on various sub-projects at the new air field joined with the feverishly working Army garrison in saving thousands of dollars of Government property.

The level of new Bolling Field, situated immediately south and southwest of the original site, is eight feet higher than that of the runways now in use.

Runways of the new field are to be completely paved, making an all-weather field for even the

heaviest and fastest airplanes. Plans call for the laying of a super-runway which eventually may be extended to approximately 5,000 feet, making possible take-offs with the largest existing airplanes fully loaded. With its super-runway, it is probable that new Bolling Field will be the scene of planes undertaking endurance and long distance flights in the future.

One of the most difficult tasks confronting the battalion of WPA workers on the project is the blasting of the heavy foundations of the old steel plant at Giesboro Point.

While no flying operations are being conducted from the new field, there is a paved area nearly 800 feet long on the east side of the field which is available in case of an emergency. Eventually, this strip will be the field apron and will border the field hangars connecting with the system of runways. Air Corps officials are anxiously awaiting the appropriation of funds by Congress to permit construction of the hangars.

A new road, east of the railroad siding which serves the

hangar and fueling area of the field, is under construction. It is a connecting link for the various technical buildings at the air post and is part of the system of road ways linking the barracks and quarters area. The work of landscaping the air base is being carried forward in conjunction with the work of grading and road building.

Bolling Field is now garrisoned by the 14th Bombardment Squadron, the 21st Observation Squadron and the 100th Service Squadron. This complement will be increased upon completion of the new field.

Air Corps officials are most grateful for the aid given by the WPA in development of the new Bolling Field. They realize that it was only through the judicious allotment of emergency funds and the sweat of toiling men that the new Bolling Field has become a reality. They assert that this air base, of such vital importance to the national defense, "could not have reached its present state of development without the aid of the Works Progress Administration."

This photograph shows the gigantic task confronting WPA in grading and building runways at Bolling Field. The project covers 760 acres



Pioneers of the 20th Century

Senator Pays Tribute to WPA Toil

By
Robert R. Reynolds

United States Senator from
North Carolina.

THE millions of men and women toiling under the banners of the Works Progress Administration are the Twentieth Century pioneers in the rebuilding of a better and brighter America.

Who, among us, will dare rise and say that these Americans shall starve or go in want in a land of plenty?

From Maine to California, from the Dakotas to the Rio Grande, every section of the country has benefited from the vast program of the WPA.

Millions of dollars have been distributed among the distressed under the Works Progress Administration. These funds have not been dumped like so much refuse in the ocean. Every dollar expended has remained in the United States.

The money was paid in wages to Americans. Part of it went to American manufacturers for materials produced in American plants, thus continuing at work men who were on the payrolls of private enterprise, thereby adding momentum to the pace of recovery initiated by the Roosevelt Administration. This work program helped distribute the wealth of the Nation in a conservative, orderly manner—the good old American way.

No bullets have been fired—no blood has been shed—no lives have been needlessly sacrificed



SENATOR ROBERT R. REYNOLDS

under the Administration's way of bringing about a better deal for our needy.

Every dollar spent under the WPA program has been for the preservation of humanity and an investment in good citizenship. The men and women of WPA have earned by the sweat of their brow every penny they have been paid.

This Nation is only beginning to see and feel the full measure of benefits under WPA.

Dilapidated school houses, cradles of liberty, have been remodeled in impoverished rural sections. New ones by the thousand have been erected in the cities to keep pace with growing communities. Parched lands have been

(Continued on Page 30)

Developing Hospital for City



*New tuberculosis ward
buildings at Gallinger
Municipal Hospital
created by WPA
workers out of a group
of old frame structures*

DEVELOPMENT of Gallinger Municipal Hospital during the last few years from an ill-equipped institution with unsightly grounds into one of the finest of its kind can be attributed in a large degree to aid furnished by the Works Progress Administration and its predecessors in the field of relief.

WPA officials not only have utilized man-power and money in development and improvement of the physical facilities of the institution, but have placed a corps of nurses, pharmacists, dietitians, orderlies, maids, clerks and other personnel at the disposal of hospital authorities who have been seriously handicapped by inadequate Congressional appropriations.

The old group of frame buildings now transformed into modern tuberculosis wards was built

during the Civil War to house wounded troops. Later they comprised the original Gallinger Hospital group. They were abandoned in 1929 as being unfit for further use. But through the ingenuity of the WPA planning board the buildings were reconditioned and made adaptable for use of tuberculosis patients.

The old isolation building, formerly used to house smallpox victims, had also been abandoned. When completely renovated, it will care for 150 child cripples and will represent the only hospital unit of its kind in the National Capital.

The 45 buildings at Gallinger Hospital cover 65 acres. Under current appropriations funds have been allotted to permit the hiring of but one painter for the entire group of buildings. WPA has maintained a large force of painters at the institution continuously. They have completed painting the interior of the 6-story main building, the main central kitchen, dining rooms, diet kitchen, nurses' home, doctors' quarters, psychopathic ward buildings, super-

intendent's home, the tuberculosis ward group and are now at work on the unit for crippled children.

Approximately 400,000 cubic yards of dirt have been moved in the task involved in grading 25 acres at the institution. Beautification of the grounds has been coincident with the grading operations. One hundred and fifty permanent shade trees have been planted and 5,000 shrubs laid out. The grounds have also been seeded.

More than 2,000 feet of new roadway has been constructed. The new roads connect the tuberculosis ward development with the doctors' quarters, children's ward building, the laboratory and the morgue. The entire road system has been shifted 30 feet, thereby increasing available parking areas around the various buildings.

One of the most valuable of the numerous WPA enterprises at Gallinger is that involving the layout of a new steam-line system, connecting all buildings with the new central power plant.

Army Medical Center Helped

Huge Grounds Beautified by WPA Men

A VETERAN who reports to the Army Medical Center in Washington at stated intervals for observation, and who was familiar with every section of the grounds by virtue of long association, arrived at the hospital recently after an absence of six months.

Approaching the triangle where the post exchange is located he paused with a puzzled expression, as one not sure of his whereabouts.

"What's happened here?" he asked a passing orderly, and without awaiting a reply, said, "The last time I was here there was a pile of clay where that flower bed is, and a couple of deep gullies and an oil tank where that lawn lies."

"Oh," said the orderly, that must have been before the Works Progress crew moved in. They have done a lot here."

If the orderly had had the time and the inclination to explain what he meant by "a lot," he might have gone on to say that WPA crews working at the reservation since last December have landscaped more than an acre of the grounds, planted several hundred trees and 250 pieces of shrubbery and moved 15,000 cubic yards of soil. They graded and seeded large areas, in addition to completing less colorful tasks such as changing approximately 2,000 feet of sewer from sanitary to storm drain, installing 5,000 feet of drains around quarters, and painting the interior of the hospital and the exterior of temporary buildings.



WPA worker removing old surface of bed at Army Medical Center preparatory to giving it a new coat of enamel

At present the extensive grounds of the Center, commonly known as the Walter Reed General Hospital, are without a question among the most attractive of any similar institution in the Nation. Shade trees, flowers and hedges are in orderly arrangement about the numerous buildings, and practically every yard of the rolling country within the confines is landscaped and sodded.

In addition to improving the appearance of the grounds, the WPA undertook the renovation of property, assigning painters to resurface both the interior and exterior of buildings and metal equipment such as beds and table beds.

The WPA project at Walter Reed emphasizes the fact, possibly as much as any other in the District, that all improvements made with Federal funds and relief labor are of a permanent

nature. They are improvements that would not otherwise have been made. This fact has been repeatedly stressed by A. G. Sanford, in charge of WPA labor at the post, and by Maj. Hugh B. Hester, quartermaster and supervisor of such activities.

In a letter to William C. Cleary, Deputy Works Administrator of the District, Major Hester said in part:

"I am proud of the results obtained [from the WPA project] and I, for one, am able to testify that the Government has received full value for money spent at this station . . . This opinion is concurred in generally by General DeWitt and the others responsible for their work . . . The painting of the interior of the hospital and renovation of beds for the same has improved the appearance of approximately 15 large wards at least 100 per cent."

Beautification of Walter Reed



Scene at Army Medical Center, where WPA workers have labored for months landscaping the grounds, planting hundreds of trees and shrubs



This highly decorative fountain has been erected on the spacious grounds of the Army Medical Center by the District of Columbia WPA

A Bolt of Cloth Goes

THE Sewing Room project of the District of Columbia Works Progress Administration has proved a double-edged weapon in the war upon want in the Capital. It has provided several thousand women and girls who could not find employment elsewhere with decently remunerative jobs, thus giving them sustenance and hope, and in addition has furnished much-needed clothing to families receiving relief.

These photographs portray the transformation of "raw material" into a garment that will enable a little girl to go back to school this fall, happy and confident. At the extreme left is a WPA worker delivering a bolt of cloth to one of the sewing rooms maintained in Washington. Below that picture is seen a WPA seamstress cutting out the pattern. Next comes the basting process, then the stitching, then the finishing, at extreme right. At lower right is the little girl thus suitably attired for her classes.

The sewing and knitting rooms constitute one of the largest and most laudable of the District of Columbia WPA projects. A total



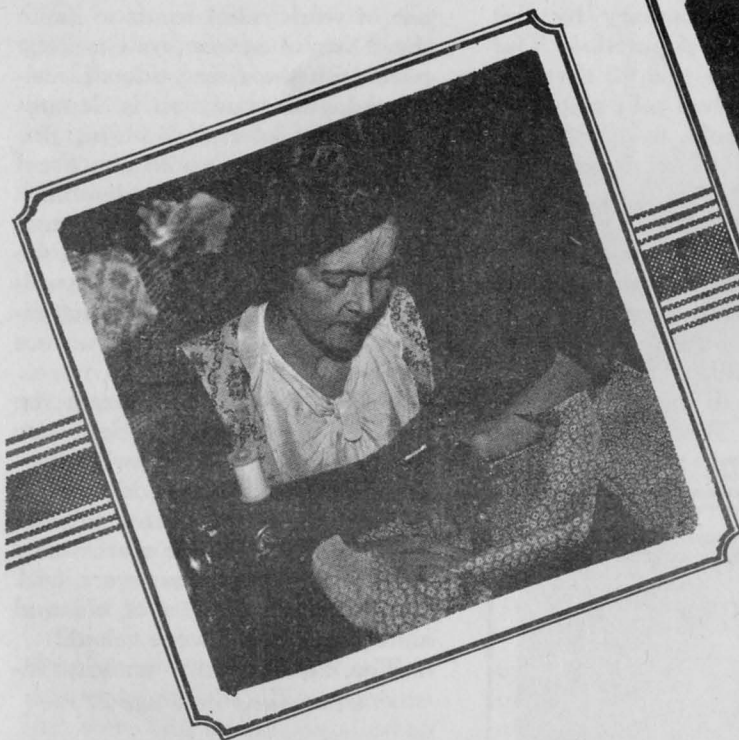
of 262,346 articles of wearing apparel for needy families were produced by the sewing rooms during the first seven months of this year.

Hundreds of the women are the heads of families. Victims of the depression, out of work, "broke," and untrained, have found em-

To School Via WPA

ployment in the sewing rooms and have become self-supporting.

The reactions of women interviewed at random may be considered typical of the spirit of cooperation and appreciation that prevails in the sewing rooms.



One said: "In addition to the feeling of pride and self-satisfaction that comes from the knowledge that I am giving value received for the wages paid me, I am happy and contented in this work because I know that poor people like myself are getting benefits from the work I am doing. As Mrs. Roosevelt told us, on her recent visit to the sewing rooms, real happiness comes from the knowledge that we are helping others."

"This sewing room project approaches the ideal," said another, "in that it gives us the opportunity of making an honest, independent livelihood, while at the same time we know that the dresses and the diapers and the bed clothing we make are going to people desperately in need. In other words, we are aiding our fellow citizens, and by doing so are supporting ourselves in a manner that calls for no apologies."



Guarding Washington Health

WPA Project Builds Miles Of Sewers

THE protection of health in the District of Columbia has been immeasurably advanced through the operations of the Works Progress Administration and its predecessors. There is abundant proof of this, particularly in the testimony of the public health officials of the Nation's Capital.

While the grants of funds of the WPA, the Civil Works Administration and the Emergency Relief Administration were intended primarily for relief, through creating work for the unemployed, the permanent benefits to the community are even more impressive.

WPA crew laying a section of the miles of new sewers imperatively needed to protect the health of Washington residents

Sewer projects are unique in that probably not a single one could be classed as "made work." Every one undertaken in the District of Columbia was vitally necessary to the health of the community, especially since Congressional appropriations recently have been inadequate to finance the sewer improvements and additions made necessary by the heavy increase in population. The important fact is that all that has been accomplished will prove of permanent benefit, in addition to the work created for large numbers of men.

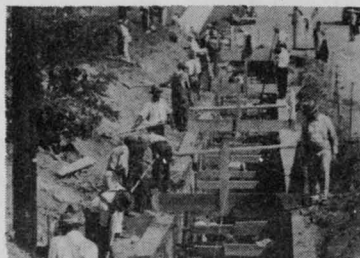
In 1933, \$200,000 was appropriated for sanitary sewer construction, but in 1935 this amount was cut to \$100,000, an amount which could not meet the increased demand that resulted from a sharp upward trend in the construction of dwellings. When the \$200,000 appropriation was restored in 1936

it was still much too small because the increase in private building continued. Many dwellings reaching completion could not be occupied because of the absence of sewer connections. Private building construction was menaced with curtailment through this economic loss.

The compelling need for the use of work relief funds to make the District sewer system keep pace with the rising tide of residential construction is demonstrated by official Building Inspector's statistics. In the fiscal year 1933 only 612 new dwellings went up, while Congress provided \$200,000 for sewers. In the last fiscal year 3,452 new dwellings were built, but the Congressional appropriation for sewers again was only \$200,000.

Under the CWA program the work was grouped under four heads—stormwater sewers, replacement sewers, flood control and other improvements to public property. Of the stormwater type 11,291 linear feet were laid. More than 7,000 feet of old and defective sewers were relaid.

The flood control activity in—
(Continued on Page 27)



Permanent Protection Gained

Sharp Home-Building Increase Confronted City With Serious Sanitary Problem

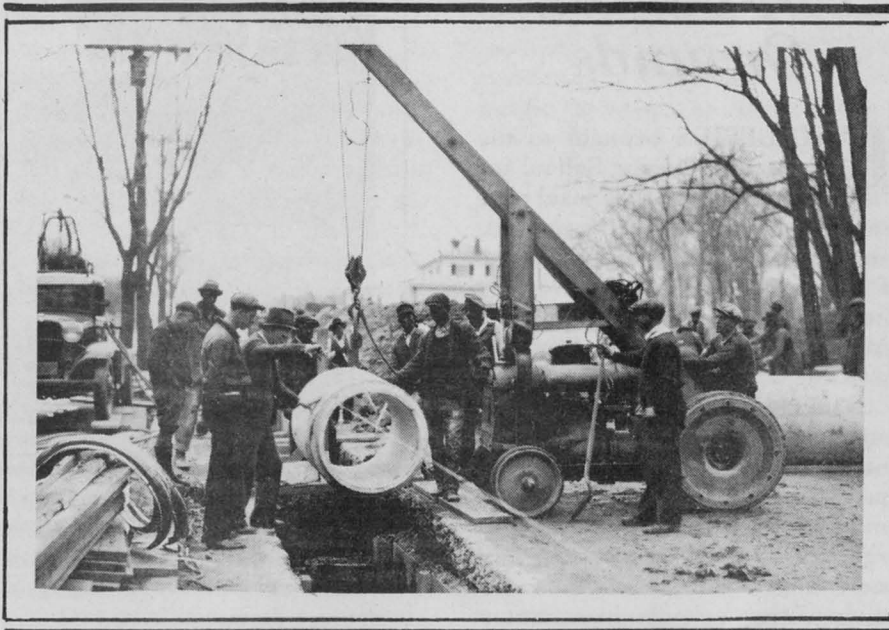
(Continued from Page 26)

volved extensive work on two sizeable perennial streams that still run through the District—Watts Branch and Oxon Run. The work consisted of lowering the stream bed in some sections, straightening out bends and clearing away debris to increase the rapidity of the runoff of water.

Among the improvements to District property which provided work under the CWA was the razing of an abandoned coal tower at the Main Sewage Pumping Station. This not only removed an unsightly object but produced material that could be used in other projects. At the Sewer Division Property Yard 245 feet of seawall was constructed and an old wharf removed. A new cable shed was built at the Sewer Division Garage. An administrative project provided employment for men of the "white collar" class.

The Works Division of the Emergency Relief Administration took over the CWA projects that were still uncompleted when that organization was terminated March 31, 1934. The result was construction of 7,800 feet of sewers, certain preliminary ground preparation was accomplished on the site of the new \$4,000,000 sewage treatment plant at Blue Plains (built with PWA funds). A total of more than seven miles of sewers were completed under ERA.

Works Progress Administration activities in the District began September 12, 1935, at a time of most pressing need in sewer construction because of insufficient Congressional appropriations and rising home building activities. Four sewer projects were undertaken. In the Northwest area 14,717 feet were constructed, in Northeast 3,160, and in South-



Dropping sewer pipe into excavation in the vast extension of the District of Columbia sewer system by WPA. More than \$500,000 was used in this project during the last fiscal year, resulting in a permanent municipal improvement

east 6,564. This gave employment to 600 laborers and 20 foremen.

Mosquito control, snow removal during the blizzard of last February, for which there were no other funds available, and emergency flood control in March also were carried out by the Sewer Division of WPA. The latter task involved employment of 800 men to raise dikes to hold the raging Potomac in check.

Flood Control

(Continued from Page 12)

relief. Scores of trucks were pressed into service to haul the rampart of dirt being thrown up. More than 4,000 tons of sand were used to fill the sand-bags used as buttresses for the dike.

Long before the crest of the

flood, which reached 18 feet above normal tide level, had sent water over most of the park land south of Constitution Avenue and creeping towards the Munitions and Navy Buildings with their valuable store of documents and records, the work had been completed.

Data on Latins

Magazine clippings dealing with the Latin American countries which date back nearly 20 years are being listed at the Pan American Union by four WPA workers. This small force also is aiding in bringing to completion the immense file of 93,000 volumes of literature. According to the project supervisor, several workers on the project have been aided in obtaining outside positions as assistant librarians through experience of their work.

New Facilities at Boys' School

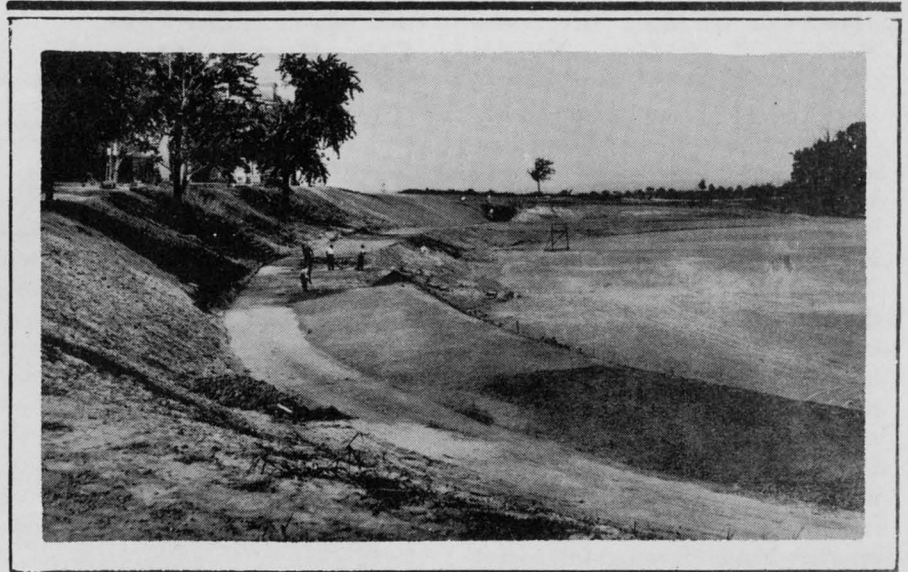
WPA Toilers Improving Grounds

FACILITIES brought to the National Training School for Boys during the last nine months by an extensive reconstruction program of the Works Progress Administration, is bringing a New Deal to the thousands of boys who will seek re-education there in future years.

Athletic fields, new dormitories, roadways and a score of other minor improvements are rapidly establishing the institution as a model in the field of youth correction. The program, which is now approaching completion, is giving the school its greatest series of improvements in its 68-year history.

Standing on a knoll high enough to offer a view of the countryside for many miles in all directions, erosion has been the principal problem in maintaining the grounds. Rains throughout the life of the correction center had heavily gutted the steep sides of the hill. Today these stretches of gullies are surrendering to the pick and shovel of WPA workers and are being transformed into beautiful terraces and athletic fields.

The largest landscaping job undertaken is the immense task of filling in a small valley with tons of earth to create an athletic field covering nearly a quarter million square feet. Extending 600 feet in length, the huge competitive sports center will include several baseball diamonds and will be encircled by a cinder track. As it stands now, the field is a broad shelf of terrace jutting out from the side of the hill. Because of this unique position, in the direct path of the natural drainage, it



Tons of earth fell away under picks and shovels at National Training School for Boys as WPA men cut away the side of this hill to create an athletic field. The field, now near completion, will cover a quarter-million square feet

has been necessary to install an extensive system to carry off rain waters. Outlets and hundreds of feet of tile piping which have been laid have stood the test of several severe rains.

Landscaping and the sewerage projects, however, form only a part of the WPA program. Two buildings have been constructed and five have been completely renovated since last December. Included in the improvements is a large conduit tunnel which carries heat and electricity from the new power house to all main buildings. Tons of earth were removed in running it through the heart of the buildings.

To operate in conjunction with the laundry department, the Works Progress Administration has set up a complete tailoring shop. Men employed here were taken from laboring squads on the grounds. All but one were formerly tailors. Working in a large room which boasts a cheerful assortment of potted flowers and ferns, the department has been pressing, mending and mak-

ing "Sunday" uniforms and overalls. They have effected a saving on uniforms which previously were bought by the school at a cost of \$20 each.

Road construction is moving ahead rapidly. A foundation for a roadway to complete the loop around the south side of the Vocational Building is being constructed with bricks salvaged during the demolition of old buildings on the grounds.

A serious problem, which may be solved by the WPA in the future is that of replacing the sanitary system laid 30 years ago. The present system, an 8-inch pipe layout, has been condemned as inadequate by the District Sewer Department engineers, who pointed out that the pipes were not large enough to take care of the increased number of buildings.

Expenditures on all projects have been held to a minimum as compared with the accomplishments. This has been possible because expenses have been confined mostly to labor costs.

WPA Wars on Tuberculosis

(Continued from Page 7)

is extremely grave, to hospitalize him at a place easily accessible to his family and friends."

The D. C. Works Progress Administration has already completed its tuberculosis case-finding project conducted under the supervision of the District of Columbia Health Department, with the active co-operation of local civic and charitable societies. The Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis provided administrative and personnel offices for the survey workers without cost.

Previously no agency or means existed to survey the territory and obtain accurate data regarding the prevalence of tuberculosis. The constructive nature of the project may be seen in the proposal to establish numerous additional clinics under public and private

agencies as a direct result of the study. A campaign of education, carried out by a large and competent crew of social workers and nurses was an integral part of the survey.

The survey, conducted under the direction of Mrs. Winifred McL. Shepler, completed its work early in July. Its accomplishments included the tabulation of all cards pertaining to visits of patients of the Tuberculosis Clinic and discharged patients from Gallinger, Glenn Dale and the Tuberculosis Hospitals, the visiting of 18,313 patients' homes and the compilation of 13,228 cards.

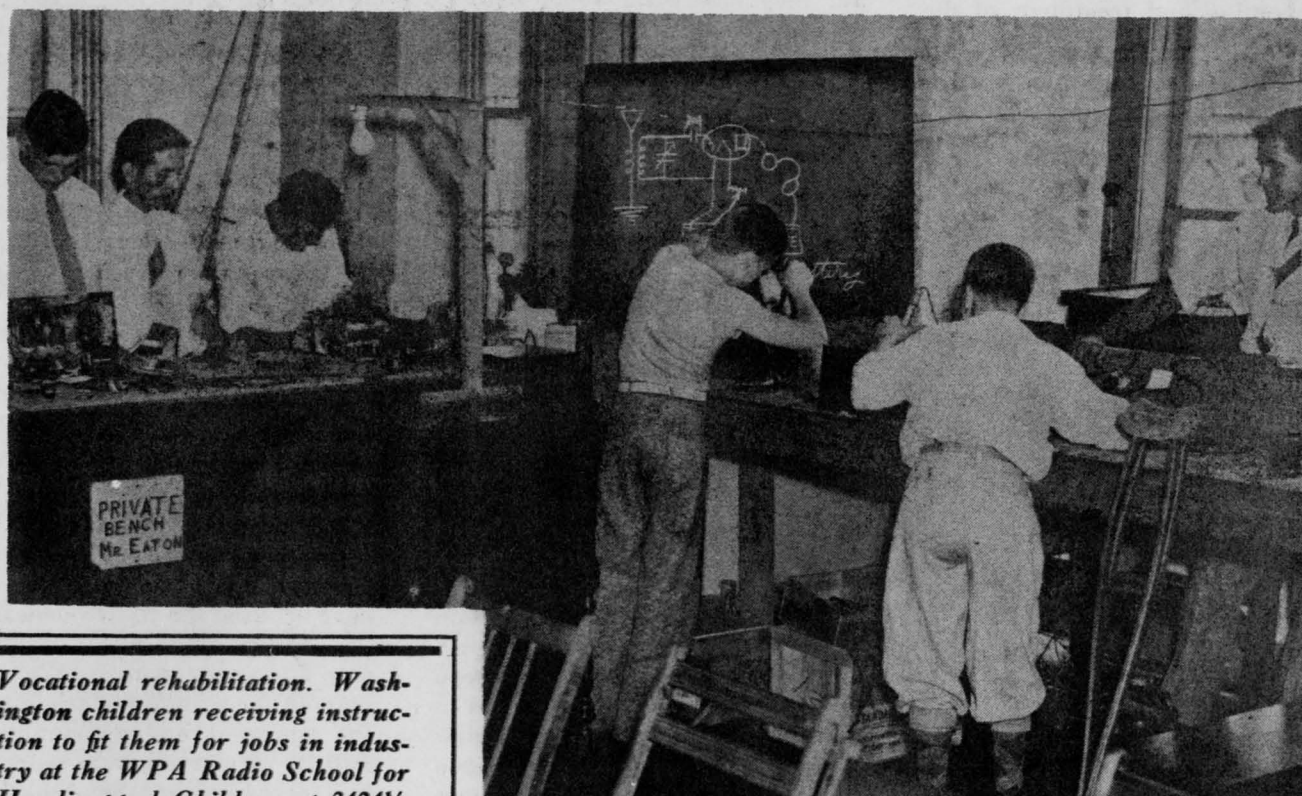
WPA workers assembled material received from the Universities of Chicago and New York and prepared final reports to be filed for future reference. They also prepared material submitted

on health condition courses and the time allotted to them in the various grades of schools.

The tuberculosis survey was part of a comprehensive program looking toward substantial and permanent alleviation of such public hazards as tuberculosis. Better housing programs, participation in school lunch projects for malnourished children, improvement of hospital facilities and building of additional recreational centers are other phases of the broad governmental program.

The relief work program has greatly augmented the District's ability to care for those affected with the various stages of tuberculosis. Considerable relief labor was used in constructing a new sanatorium for child tuberculosis patients at Glenn Dale, Md. After aiding in the construction

(Continued on Page 30)



Vocational rehabilitation. Washington children receiving instruction to fit them for jobs in industry at the WPA Radio School for Handicapped Children at 3424½ M street, Northwest

Combatting White Plague

(Continued from Page 29)

of the building and the landscaping and terracing of the surrounding grounds, other relief workers were employed within the Sanatorium itself as porters, kitchen help and mechanics. Praising relief aid, Dr. Daniel Leo Finucane superintendent of the institution, declared:

"We feel that had we not had these men assigned to us, we would really have been in a terrible situation, and if anything should occur that they should be removed within the coming year, we would be in desperate circumstances."

Laborers also participated in improving tuberculosis camps and a hospital for adult tubercular victims.

The public press, charitable organizations and civic groups gave their enthusiastic support to the survey as a new move under work relief to better the health of the community. Health officials, directly concerned with the prevention and treatment of the dread disease, offered every cooperation.

The Tuberculosis Hospital was given needed assistance through the assignment of workers from the relief rolls. These included nurses, maids, orderlies and laborers. Dr. J. Winthrop Peabody, superintendent of the hospital, declared:

"Had not this institution been given the services of relief workers it would not have been able to give the good care, good food and in some instances special nursing to the patients assigned it by the Board of Public Welfare."

Survey

(Continued from Page 16)

Of course, many mistakes have been made, and a few more will be made. No such vast work program could have been undertaken without making mistakes. How-

ever, WPA learns quickly and rectifies its mistakes promptly. Today this organization is slowly but surely becoming a model of efficiency. Its officials fully realize that the relief funds constitute a sacred trust to be administered primarily for the benefit of the needy, but in keeping with the general interests of society.

If you want to know whether WPA is generally considered worthwhile, merely suggest to any community that all such activities stop. The answers will leave no doubt as to the value and importance of WPA. Just visit a project unannounced, as I did, and see for yourself the wonderful work which is being done by people who otherwise would have to remain idle and hungry.

I challenge anyone who wants to be fair to visit WPA projects anywhere. He will find, as I have found, that over 90 per cent of these projects are a real asset to the community. They benefit both rich and poor, but to the latter they also bring food, shelter and the dignity of honest work. The Works Progress Administration has become the greatest humanitarian agency in history, devoting its tremendous resources and energy to help the needy and to improve the social conditions in the entire country.

Pioneers

(Continued from Page 20)

developed into fertile fields through new irrigation and soil erosion projects. Rivers have been spanned by modern bridges; thousands of miles of new and improved highways have opened new arteries for transportation and commerce. National, State and local authorities have been enabled to combat the ravages of tuberculosis, malaria and other diseases; new hospitals have been constructed, all resulting in general health improvement.

Death trap grade-crossings have been abolished, neglected parks and playgrounds have been improved, countless others have been built for the public welfare; thousands of miles of antiquated sewer lines, all grave hazards to the national health, have been ripped up and replaced with modern sanitary systems. Hundreds of airports for the promotion of commercial aviation in peacetime and for use in national defense in time of threatened invasion, now dot the country as the result of our WPA.

Man-power and money have been thrown into the battle against nature to thwart the ravages of flood waters, which annually constitute a grave national menace. The Capital of our Nation itself was saved from inundation during the great flood of last March by battalions of WPA workers who struggled through the night to erect the dikes which successfully checked the onrushing waters of the Potomac. And the same dramatic story can be told in virtually every State of the Union.

These are only a few of the projects on which the taxpayers' money was expended under WPA. Visit some of the projects in your neighborhood and see for yourself how useful and permanent are these improvements. These benefits are WPA's contribution to a new and greater America.

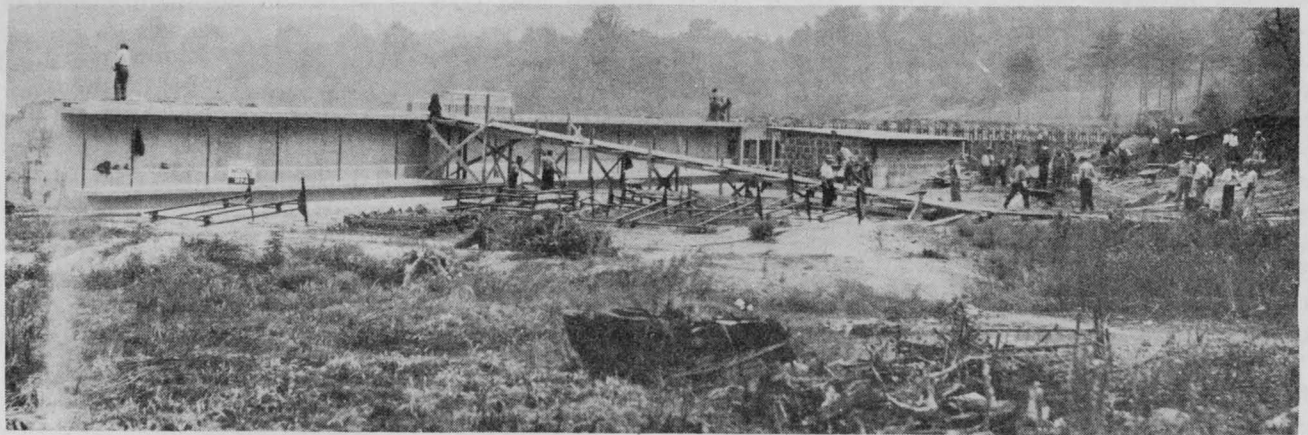
Youth

(Continued from Page 17)

It would be foolhardy to make the statement that we have solved even the economic problem of providing work for all youth. But we can say that we have made progress. We can say that we have aroused the consciousness of the country to the plight of young men and young women. We have pointed the way to the attainment for youth of an opportunity to find its proper place to work, to live according to the American standard.

Militia Rifle Range Enlarged

WPA Labor Changes the Entire Aspect of Camp Sims; New Butts Constructed



WPA workers extending the rifle butts at the National Guard's Camp Sims to provide for 15 additional targets

TRANSFORMATION of the National Guard Rifle Range at Camp Sims, from an ill-equipped, obsolete military adjunct into a model rifle range, is one of the many accomplishments of relief labor under the Works Progress Administration in the District of Columbia.

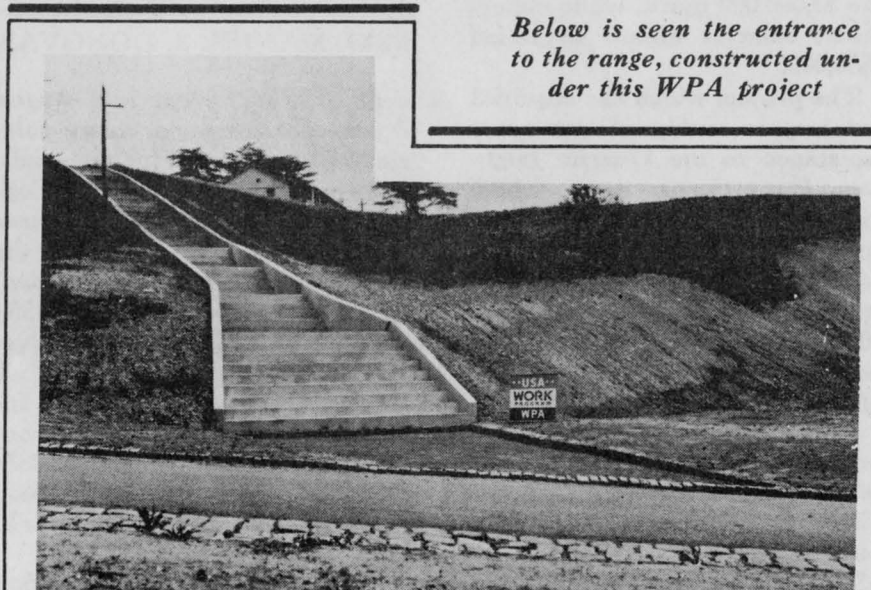
One of the first tasks undertaken by WPA labor at Camp Sims was that of raising the level of practically the whole site. Coincident with this work the camp road was improved and a new system of drainage installed. The course of the creek bordering the camp had to be changed to meet the new drainage requirements.

In addition to this job, WPA workmen built a new stone 21-target rifle butt, demolished two of the older butts, built a new pistol range, constructed four new target houses, repaired buildings and cleared approximately 6,000 square yards of forest and brush land.

This work was done at the cost of \$24,000 for labor.

Camp Sims is the only rifle range in the District of Columbia and is used extensively by the

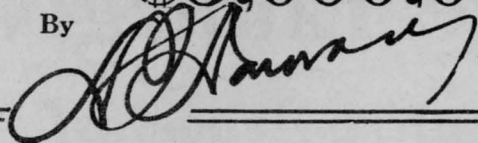
National Guard, Marine Corps, members of the Metropolitan Police Department and the regular armed services of the Federal Government.



Below is seen the entrance to the range, constructed under this WPA project

\$5,000,000 Spent in D. C.

By



Auditor of the District of Columbia and Director of Finance,
District of Columbia WPA

THE Works Progress Administration program for the District of Columbia to date has involved the expenditure of approximately \$5,000,000. About 68 per cent of this has gone directly into relief in the form of wages for men and women unable to find work in private employment. Twelve per cent was devoted to salaries of those in supervisory positions, 13 per cent for materials and other costs and 7 per cent for equipment and rentals.

Statistics show that at the end of the fiscal year, June 30 last, actual expenditures since the program was launched August 1, 1935, totaled \$4,445,981.92, leaving a balance of \$61,123.14 from the amount first allocated in the District for the widely varied WPA projects. Most of these have not only provided relief to thousands but also conferred permanent physical benefits upon the Nation's Capital. The figures reveal that in that 11-month period disbursements for wages passed the \$3,000,000 mark, while supervisory salaries slightly exceeded \$550,000.

The project which has required the largest outlay of money is assistance to the District Highway Department, upon which more than \$1,000,000 has been spent. Expenditures on ten other major projects have ranged from \$100,000 to more than \$600,000. Total disbursements are now running in the neighborhood of \$500,000 per month.

In carrying on the highway program WPA in eleven months made expenditures as follows: Clearing and grading, \$129,670; constructing road shoulders, \$353,959; widening streets, \$171,456; beautification, \$65,823; breaking and spreading re-

claimed material, \$316,333.

The next highest expenditures have been on the sewing rooms where needy women and girls have been given employment turning out garments for needy families. In eleven months this work required \$607,596, 77 per



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cent of which went into wages, 7 per cent for supervisory salaries and 15 per cent for materials.

Improvement of National Capital Parks caused expenditures running well over \$500,000, the major items being: Development of six recreation centers, \$155,288; improving 60 small reservations, \$83,600; work in Rock Creek Park and Smithsonian Institution grounds, \$70,119; construction of park roads, \$156,287; repair of park roads, \$29,681; grading of Anacostia Park, \$42,291.

More than half a million dollars also was spent to help the District Government combat the

menace to public health resulting from inadequate Congressional appropriations for sewer construction and maintenance in the rapidly expanding community.

The expenditure for the District Repair Shop project, the landscaping of public school grounds, totaled \$235,000 and immeasurably increased the physical beauty of the Capital. Hand in hand with this went extensive work upon the city's playgrounds.

Gallinger Hospital expenditures by the WPA included \$61,120 for landscaping, \$25,964 for additional nurses and orderlies, \$54,124 for building construction, and \$3,769 for summarizing old records.

The emergency school lunches for needy children, who otherwise would have to go through the day hungry, entailed an outlay of \$117,153 in the public schools and \$3,794 in the parochial schools.

The student aid program of the National Youth Administration, a branch of WPA, called for the expenditure of \$98,982 for assistance of college students, \$19,466 for high school students and \$14,135 for those doing graduate work. This outlay enabled about 1,400 young men and women of Washington to continue their education through the provision of part-time employment.

On the Board of Education project, WPA spent \$42,009 on nursery and adult education, \$77,579 in filing records, and \$14,022 on community centers.

While the average disbursement for wages was approximately 68 per cent there were numerous instances in which every penny of expenditure was devoted to the relief of the jobless.

Cornerstone of the Republic

ON THE hilly area once the site of the council house of the Powhatan branch of the Algonquin Indians now stands the Capitol of the United States, symbol of the world's greatest nation.

Most impressive and beautifully symmetrical is the exceptional view of the Capitol which graces the front cover page of this first issue of *WORK*.

The Capitol has kept steady pace with the growth of the Nation. Since the cornerstone was laid the Capitol has been enlarged from time to time to meet increasing demands of the legislators. Even now the stately building remains uncompleted. The east front has never been extended as contemplated by the plans of Thomas U. Walter, under whose direction the Senate and House wings had been added and the new dome constructed.

At this time expansion of the Capitol grounds is in progress. The grounds will contain, with the area included in the House and Senate office buildings, more than 120 acres.

The National Capital moved from Philadelphia to Baltimore, Lancaster, York, Princeton, Annapolis, Trenton and New York City before it found a permanent home in the District of Columbia.

The original plan for the Capitol was the work of Dr. William Thornton, a physician of Tortola, West Indies, and was accepted April 5, 1793. The cornerstone was laid September 18 of the same year. Thornton's plans provided for a central section nearly square in area, surmounted by a low dome, to be flanked on the north and south by rectangular buildings. The north and south wings were completed and joined by a wooden corridor until the interior of both buildings were burned by the British in 1814.

Under B. H. Latrobe the work of reconstruction of the damaged interiors was under way until December, 1817, when he resigned and Charles Bulfinch, a prominent architect of Boston, Mass., continued it and the erection of the central portion of the building, which was completed in 1818.

The building of the present Senate and House wings was begun in 1851 under the plans of Thomas U. Walter. On July 4, 1851, the cornerstone of the extensions was laid. The oration was delivered by Daniel Webster and his prophetic utterances on that occasion have been quoted many times.
